



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
2 NAVY ANNEX  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20370-5100

JRE  
Docket No: 7661-99  
23 October 2000

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 19 October 2000. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you were hospitalized from on 15 July 1972, following a suicide attempt. Your condition was ultimately diagnosed as "adjustment reaction of adult life", which was related to family problems involving your mother, sister and former "girlfriend". Available records do not indicate that you had been exposed to severe trauma, racism, or physical violence, or suffered from any of the hallmark symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder. You were restored to duty on 25 July 1972, and completed your active duty commitment without further incident or need for psychiatric treatment. You completed a Report of Medical History on 14 June 1993 in which you disclosed the aforementioned adjustment reaction, but denied a history of depression or excessive worry. You were released from active duty on 24 September 1973.

The Board rejected your unsubstantiated contention that you were exposed to severe trauma during your enlistment, and developed post traumatic stress disorder as a result of that exposure, or that you were unfit for duty at the time of your release from active duty. There is no indication in your service records that you were subjected to "threats of violence and

bodily harm; racial hatred; homicides; and intentional assaults", or that the "military failed to assure its personnel and to protect its personnel from violence". The fact that you were diagnosed as suffering from post traumatic stress disorder many years after you were discharged was not considered probative of error or injustice in your case. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER  
Executive Director